DISCUSS MENACE OF GERMAN CARP

By CARTER W. WORMELEY

Richmond, Va., Feb. 8 (Special)—Characterized by the Hon. Lewis H. Machen, Director of the Educational Bureau, State Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, as a "domineering, Water-muddying aquatic hog," and as a "piscatorial swine," the German Carp is given prominent notice in the current number of the Game and Fish Conservationist, a monthly publication gotten out under the supervision of the State Fish and Game Department.

The presence of German Carp in the waters of Virginia is said by Mr. Machen to be rapidly increasing. He refers to the Carp as "this foreign brute of the fish tribe," asserting that in winter it can live for weeks without food, while in the spawning season it sustains itself largely by devouring the eggs of native fish.

Recently Commissioner McDonald Lee, of the State Fish and Game Department, caused two conferences to be held in Richmond for the single purpose of considering the German Carp. The question was studied from every angle, with the result that it was decided that the Carp was a nuisance, and that a systematic campaign be undertaken by the State to diminish its numbers.

The Carp, according to the account given by Mr. Machen, grows rapidly, attaining the weight of fifteen or twenty pounds. Some are said to have been taken from Virginia waters which weighed as much as forty pounds. The Carp is said to attain a maximum weight of sixty pounds. The fish is coarse grained. It is said by some to hibernate in the winter, burrowing deep into the mud. Instances have been cited where a Carp has been frozen in a block of ice for a week without apparent injury.

By reason of their great hardihood, weight, and their singular fecundity, the Carp are said to be rapidly driving a majority of the native fish from the rivers, creeks and ponds of Virginia. They are said to be especially hostile to bass, trout, perch, shad and herring. So far the Carp has not been introduced in any large numbers into the mountain streams of the State, but in many counties its presence is regarded as a real menace.

STATE BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS—DEATHS BY VIOLENCE IN VIRGINIA.

(By Carter W Wormeley)

Richmond—A ruesome enumeration of deaths by violence in Virginia during the past several years has just been compiled by the Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics, a comparison being made between such deaths in ehrst half of 1922 with the same period in the proceeding year. Discussing thes two periods Dr. W. A. Plecks, State Registrar, points out that, while there is manifested a falling off in some forms of death by violence, there has been a manifest increase in certain other forms, so that such deaths for the two six month periods under consideration total almost the same, those for 1921 being 836, those for 1922 being 837. During this period suicides dropped from 8 to 78, and homicides from 140 to 12.

During the period 1913-1921, suicides reached their highest for the entire year in 1915, with a total of 183; the lowest being recorded in 1920, with 128. Homicides reached them maximum in 1921, with 319, as their minimum in 1917, with 184.

Automobile deaths dropped from 16 during the first half of 1921, to 47 for the same period in 1922. The total automobile, however, for 1921 was 140, showing that the latter half of the year had nearly twice the number of such fatalities as had the first, or 90 to 50. In 1913 there were only 21 deaths from automobile, while for the years following there were, in rotation, 26-47-52-116-88-97-140 deaths.

There were 126 deaths from burning during the first half of 1921, and 219 such deaths in 1921. In 1916 there were 245 deaths from burns, while the lowest number of these deaths was reached in 1921, with 202.

There were 71 persons drowned during the first half of 1921, but only 67 during the same period in 1922. The highest number of drownings was registered in 1916, when 178 were reported. In 1919 the lowest number was registered, which totalled 136.

There were10 deaths from all other forms of violence, including 41 from railroad and street car accidents, during the first half of 1922, as against 156 such deaths for the same period in 1921.

Violent deaths in other forms reached their highst in 1919 with 1,032, while automobile deaths were the lowest, other forms of violent death showed the highest rate, that of 59.7 per 100,000 population, the actual number being 1,976.

Of 78 suicides, 74 were white and only 4 black, while of 136 burns, 72 were white and 64 black. The colored population being about 20 per cent that of the total, a white person is shown to be about six times as likely to take his life as is a negro. On the other hand, a colored person appears to be about two and a quarter time as apt to be burned to death as a white one.

Of the homicides, 55 were white and 69 colored. The normal number of colored homicides, according to population, should be about47. It is therefore shown that such homicides run about 50 per cent ahead of the expected proportion.

The above figures may, to some small extent, be increased by receipt of delayed certificates.

Farm Bureau Service Corporation.

EDISON TO WORK UNTIL HE IS 100 YEARS OLD

West Orange, N. J., Feb. 12.—Thomas A. Edison, who celebrated his seventy-eighth birthday yesterday, expects to work until he is 100 years old.

"Judging by my ancestors," he said today, "I am really only a middle-aged man now. Judging by my feelings, it comes to about the same thing. My great-grandfather lived to be 104, and my grandfather to be 102, while my father was 84 when he died. I do not expect to lower the average."

Path of Unwisdom.

We too often lose what is certain while we are seeking what is uncertain.

Fastest Fur.nit Pl. Gives America War

Skeleton View of New Curtiss Pursuit Plane, Showing Metal Construction.

The test performance of a new Curtiss Pursuit Plane has caused a sensation in the Army and Navy services. Ever since the Pulitzer Race at Detroit, in which a new all-American motor finished in the first four places, it has been expected that military planes of a super-type would make their appearance at almost any time. The actual performance of the first pursuit ship of a series surpasses expectation.

In many respects, this aeroplane is a departure from precedent. It uses the same Curtiss motor used in the racing plane at Detroit, it is evident-ly, with some changes, the most radical advance in the art of cooling a motor since 1917, and which reduces the resistance of the air almost to zero. These features were expected. The construction, however, it said to possess, also, a new feature, in that the entire machine can be stored for a period of twenty years, if necessary,

Engine Water is Cooled by Wing Radiators.—Diagram Indicates How Water is Pumped Through Tiny Grooves in Wing Surface.

and taken out of storage, ready to engage in battle, in seventy-four hours notice.

This machine is also stated to be the first real fighting ship of all-metal construction and design. While tests are not completed, where opinion is that it is not only the fastest, but also the most powerful fighting ship in existence in any nation today.

OAKVILLE

Miss Virginia Hunter who is principal of the high school here, spent the week-end at her home in Lynchburg, and had as her guest Miss Virginia Harvey of the place. They were entertained in the afternoon by a th atre party, and Saturday evening with a rook party given by Mrs. C. P. Marshall.

A large crowd enjoyed on last Wednesday evening as Oakville school, an interesting discussion in the form of a debate on the subject "That Mans sphere is broader than Womans' " contestants being Miss [illegible] and Mr. Wi[illegible] on the negative. The [illegible] decided in favor of the [illegible]

We are glad to say that Mrs. [illegible] Thorpe is improving [illegible]

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